

Mr. Osborne's Letter.
We lay before our readers the expected letter from James W. Osborne, Esq., of Charlotte, in reply to the Committee of the late Wadesborough meeting. The correspondence speaks for itself, and will convince even the Fayetteville Observer, that the Journal was not misinformed in regard to Mr. O's position or anticipated course. We have also on file, a letter from A. C. Williamson, Esq., of Charlotte, formerly editor of the Charlotte Whig, who, like Mr. Osborne, is going for James Buchanan.

The few persons, who, after having unsuccessfully elected for the Know Nothing candidate for Governor, went to Baltimore, and undertook to speak for the old line Whigs [who had not committed themselves to any party, must begin to feel cheap by this time, and this is not the end of the movement by a great deal. This arrogant attempt of a few self-appointed delegates of the late Mr. Gilmer, to carry over the old line Whigs of the State, just as they might choose, will have its results, but not the results that the eloquent Baltimore orators anticipated. Mr. Graham and others tried their best in August. Did they think they could issue their edicts with more weight from Baltimore, or derive power from their association with Hiram Ketchum and such like?

Superintendent of the W. and M. Railroad.
We understand that the Directors of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad Company have tendered to Mr. J. P. Robertson the office of Superintendent of the above road, lately vacated by L. J. Fleming, Esq., and that Mr. R. has accepted the appointment.

There is no doubt but that Mr. Robertson will make a good officer, and we think the Directors have been fortunate in procuring his services.

Herald.

We agree fully with the Herald in regarding the appointment, as a good one.

One of the main objects of the Black Republican and Know Nothing fusion in Pennsylvania is to induce confidence into the enemies of Democracy and discourage its friends. If the coalition can succeed in carrying the State election, we will hear a grand cry from the Fillmore orators and presses of the South over the ruinous and disgraceful victory which their Northern friends have assisted the Black Republicans to achieve, and the people of the South will be gravely advised to desert Mr. Buchanan and go for Mr. Fillmore, whose friends act in concert with those of Mr. Fremont. We have it upon pretty good authority that there is a hitch in the prospective coalition upon the electoral ticket in that State, a few of the Fillmore electors being troubled with a conscience. The Black Republicans are to hold a convention on the 8th of October, to decide about an electoral ticket, and the report is that six of the electors on the Fillmore ticket, after having been duly sounded, refuse to agree to go for Fremont on any conditions or under any circumstances. What will be done in this state of the case remains to be seen. Whether the thing will fall through, the vote be divided, or these untractable men struck from the ticket and denounced as "traitors," after the manner pursued in reference to Levin and the others who refuse to support the fusion or Abolition ticket. The whole affair is in a "muddle," but will show itself shortly in its true colors. As things now stand all the odds and ends of opposition are united in the effort to overthrow the Democrats. Indeed, we notice that the Baltimore American of yesterday copies, with approval, an article from the Pennsylvania Enquirer, setting forth this fact and anticipating success from it.

We leave the Southern people to judge in the matter. It is hardly worth while for us to keep dining and talking. The thing speaks for itself and none can fail to listen to its monitions but those who are wilfully deaf.

The North Carolina State Fair is to be held at Raleigh on the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th of October. Considerable preparations have been made for its accommodation, and it is expected to exceed in interest all previous exhibitions. We are indebted to the Executive Committee, through its Secretary, Mr. Patridge, for tickets and an invitation to attend, of which we would gladly avail ourselves did not other engagements prevent us.

The Greensboro, N. C. Patriot, says that there was a heavy frost at that place on Wednesday and Thursday nights, the 24th and 25th of this month, a full week or ten days earlier than usual.

Senator Hamilton Fish, one of the "Fillmore Whigs" of New York, has gone over to the Black Republicans. The New York Courier and Enquirer publishes a long letter giving his reasons.

It is rumored that Senator Douglas is shortly to be married to a lady of Washington City.

The Herald is doubtful whether the Journal stated that the Philadelphia News, Fillmore paper, advocated a fusion electoral ticket. We will solve its doubts by saying that the Journal did not state so. We stated that the News urged the friends of Mr. Fillmore to support the fusion Abolition ticket, and denounced as traitors all who would not do so.

Burning of Steamer Niagara—One Hundred Lives Lost.

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 25th.—The steamer Niagara was burnt last evening near Fort Washington, Lak Michigan. There were one hundred lives lost.—Hon. John B. May is supposed to be among the lost. Capt. Miller was saved. We have not been able to gather particulars yet.

MILWAUKEE, Sept. 25th.—The Niagara took fire four miles from Fort Washington, and was burnt to the water's edge and then sunk.

The steamer Traveler went by her assistance.

The Niagara had a very heavy freight, all of which is lost. The captain and crew were saved by the propeller Illinois.

Several sail vessels picked up many passengers.

From Washington City.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25th.—The Republicans of Wheeling and neighborhood contemplate a mass meeting there in a few days, and have written to their friends there to send them speakers. Those sent, they say, must be citizens of the slaveholding States. [Where's Bots?]

It is not true that the President has ordered a *nolle prosequi* in the case of the Kansas prisoners. Official advices from Governor Geary and Gen. Smith, express the hope that peace and quiet will soon be restored in Kansas. The Executive is perfectly satisfied with the course pursued by these gentlemen.

Instructions have been sent to the commander of the Pacific squadron in relation to the protection of American citizens on the Isthmus of Panama.

Definite action on the subject of the Panama measure will be had in the Cabinet early next week.

THE BAY ISLANDS CEASED TO EXIST.—A correspondent of the New York Herald at Belize announces the fact that the British colony of the Bay Islands had virtually ceased to exist, and that the Mosquito King had been informed by the officer of Her Britannic Majesty's ship Cossack of the termination of the English protectorate, and consequently the end of his rule. The writer does not state what effect the news had on His Majesty. The Islands would be transferred to the republic of Honduras.

TEXAS STATISTICS.—The "Lone Star" contains ninety-nine counties. It is supposed some twenty more will be organized at the next session of the Legislature. Good lands in Texas can be obtained from \$3 to \$8 per acre. Good lands within thirty miles of Houston can be purchased for \$1 per acre. Galveston has six thousand population; San Antonio seven thousand; Houston six thousand; Brownsville five thousand.

Mr. Osborne's Letter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WADESBORO, N. C., Sept. 13th, 1856.

JAMES W. OSBORNE, Esq.:
Dear Sir—We, a portion of your old personal and political friends, all old-line Whigs and citizens of Anson county, believing the permanent existence of this Union, as a nation, likely to be greatly affected by the result of the approaching Presidential election, are anxious to learn your opinion, what is the duty of Whigs, as National and Southern men, in the approaching contest. We are well aware that you have for several years past stood aloof from, and refused to engage in political strife; but believing you none the less patriotic, or likely to be biased by party prejudices, and that in the present alarming crisis you will not refuse a full and free interchange of opinion with your old political friends—we, therefore, most respectfully ask your opinion on matters in which we are all mutually interested.

Very respectfully, your friends,
J. WHITE,
W. R. LEAK,
W. R. LITTLE,
WM. LITTLE,
L. D. BENNETT.

CHARLOTTE, Sept. 19, 1856.

Messrs. J. White, and others:

GENTLEMEN: I had prescribed to myself a course of entire inaction in the present political canvass, from which I hoped that no circumstances would make it my duty to depart. But I have received various letters from personal and political friends besides yours, so urgent on the subject that I have felt it my duty to reply to them. The answer which I make to yourselves will suffice for all others.

The condition of our country at this time finds no parallel in its former history. By the consent of all persons it is admitted that no danger half so serious ever threatened its internal peace or its political institutions. For the first time a mighty effort is being made to combine the free States and the slave States, and by force of numbers under the forms of the Constitution to deprive them of their equal rights to the common property, to abolish slavery at the capital, and in every thing essential to their dignity and welfare to prostrate them before their oppressors. In this effort the most powerful motives of action are united in zealous co-operation. Eloquence and sagacity, false philosophy and mistaken piety, ambition and greed, and domestic capital and arms, are actively engaged to accomplish our ruin. Eminent statesmen from all the great political parties have forgotten their ordinary differences in pursuing a common enemy to the South. In the mean time, elections have taken place in three of the non-slaveholding States, two of them heretofore distinguished not only by tolerance but liberality of feeling, and in all of them Abolition sentiment has not only triumphed but have swept away all show of opposition. The danger, therefore, is imminent, that Mr. Fremont will carry every free State, and will come to the Presidency by the votes of the free States given explicitly in hostility to the institutions of the South. If an enemy were invading our country, and threatening destruction to our homes and homes, this sentiment would give harmony to our feelings, moderation and prudence to our counsels, and unity to our efforts, until the foe was repelled and the danger over. The state of things is like this only in part. The invasion of a foreign foe might bring with it severe disasters, but it would be temporary, and our country and its institutions, we might hope, would survive it. But, we may be on the eve of a revolution, which will overthrow our existing government, and break up the Union of the States, and involve us in the crime and wretchedness of a civil war. In this state of things I confess I have no sympathy with the party bickering, the crimination and recrimination, and all the forms of political warfare which distract our Southern society. The sole question with me has been, how is the threatening evil to be obviated? In its consideration I have endeavored to regard as subjects of the highest importance, and I have, without reference to my own prepossessions and party attachments. If I had regarded these, I should have supported Mr. Fillmore as cordially as the warmest friend who now advocates his election. I have no fault to find with the party under whose auspices he has been nominated. For his personal character I entertain the highest respect, and I believe that he would give us a fair and impartial administration, but the Union of the South I believe absolutely indispensable to the defeat of Mr. Fremont, and that union, if affected at all, can only be made in the person of Mr. Buchanan. Taking things as we find them, the prepossessions of a large majority of the Southern people are Democratic, and nineteen-twentieths of those in the South who are attached to Mr. Buchanan, are in favor of the following resolution of the Democratic platform:

"Resolved, That we recognize the right of the people of all the Territories including Kansas and Nebraska, acting through the fairly expressed will of a majority of actual residents, and whenever the number of their inhabitants justifies it, to form a constitution with or without slavery, and be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States."

What objections there may be to other doctrines avowed in this platform, this resolution enunciates a principle which every Southern man feels to be just and constitutional; and the only one on the great subject to which it refers, in which the Union is safe. This, I conceive, the great question—distinctly presented, in the present canvass; and in comparison with it every other sinks into insignificance. Suppose it to be adopted as a principle in which we can imagine any question which would dissolve or endanger the Union? If it is overborne and defeated at this time it is probable that any other opportunity can occur by which it can be incorporated into the creed of a great and national party. Then, why cannot those who agree in this cardinal principle—when it is jeopardized by a combination—appealing to sectional passions and sectional power, and to the hope of power on one side, and difficulty and resume hereafter their party relations and their preferences? As I before remarked—the South is Democratic by a large majority; and reason and justice would seem to require, that to accomplish a common end, the minority should yield to the majority.

In the non-slaveholding States, such is the superabundance of the evidence of the majority of the election is extremely doubtful. There, as here, Union men are divided on issues comparatively immaterial; and these conflicts, in the face of an ardent and united opposition, endanger the success of our cause. I have, however, not doubted but the chances are in favor of Mr. Buchanan over Mr. Fillmore, even in that region. Mr. Fillmore may carry New York. It is the only free State in which we are hopeful efforts are made for him. As to the result in it, nothing can be known approaching certainty; and the fairest minded men admit that the Free Soilers have equal chances with the Americans—while all agree that the co-operation of the friends of Mr. Fillmore and Mr. Buchanan could give the vote of that great State in behalf of the Union. It is not denied that the restoration of the Missouri line, in Pennsylvania, Illinois, Indiana, New Jersey and California, not less favorable than that of Mr. Fillmore in New York. To meet the crisis, I advocate a united South. We have too long for our safety, permitted matters of minor importance to distract and divide us—and in contests in which little has been at stake, we have been insensible to dangers of intemperate malignity.

I have not permitted myself to be influenced by the allegation often made, that our difficulties have originated in the policy of the Democratic party. The legislation organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, is the object of this reproach; and it is not my purpose to discuss it. One thing is certain, that in its adoption there was an extraordinary unanimity of opinion among Southern men of all parties; and no Southern man is willing to avow himself in favor of the restoration of the Missouri line. But three Southern Senators and five or six members of the House of Representatives voted in opposition to it; and several of the latter were defeated before their constituents at subsequent elections. This legislation, therefore, was acceptable generally to Southern statesmen and to the Southern people. It may have been wise or unwise, but it is now fixed in our jurisprudence—and the question is, as I conceive, as to its disturbance in future.

As nearly unanimous as can be expected, on any subject which admits of discussion.

Nor do I think it fair to say that the election of Mr. Buchanan would not give us quiet, and thus save the Union. This will, I admit, entirely depend on circumstances. If, for instance, Kansas, under his administration, should apply for admission as a

slave State, it would meet with violent opposition from the free States, and agitation, through all the channels of fanaticism, and political violence, would again be renewed. But, would not the same thing occur under Fillmore? Does any sane man suppose that if on any measure of legislation the South should insist on her just rights, under any President whatever, that excitement and agitation would not exist? There is a way in which agitation can be quieted, and only one, and that is by submission to all the requisitions which may be made by the free States, on every subject peculiarly affecting our vital interests.

Nor can I perceive the force of the specious objection that Mr. Buchanan is a sectional candidate; and therefore, that he would not be the proper person for the adjustment of our present difficulties. This is the argument adopted by the free-soilers—a device to justify their open and avowed sectionalism, and to mitigate the force of the objection to their proceedings, as likely to dissolve the Union. If the principle in regard to the domestic institutions of the Territories, which I have before referred to, be in conformity to the constitution, how can he be sectional, who represents it?—Is not Mr. Buchanan a candidate in every State in the Union? Was he not nominated by delegates from every district in our wide confederacy? And though it may be with very doubtful fortunes, are not his claims pressed in every county and village of the Union? Can this be said of any other candidate? And is not his claim to a "broad and comprehensive nationality" complete and unquestionable?

If the Union is to be destroyed, it will be by an injurious and oppressive policy towards the South, by the national government. Should Mr. Buchanan be elected in this contest, no such policy can receive his countenance. The causes of disunion will be removed, and the South will at least have the fullest confidence in him. He is admitted to have ability of high order and great experience in public affairs, and he formed his opinions at a time when sectional controversy was unknown—and through a long public life, has been uniformly and consistently liberal to the South.

You perceive that I have addressed myself simply to the emergency in which our country is placed.—My personal preferences were for Mr. Fillmore, and my sympathies have been warmly with his party.—I do not propose to myself to abandon my principles or my political friends, and I desire to see the South and the preservation of the Union. If these are accomplished either by Mr. Fillmore or Mr. Buchanan, my sole object will be effected. The minor interests of parties will interest me then as they have done heretofore, and I shall promote, as far as I am able, the beneficent and conservative policy which I have always preferred.

Respectfully, yours,

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Three Days Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, Sept. 24.—The steamer Canada arrived here this morning at six o'clock, from Liverpool, with passengers and cargo. The steamer was commanded by Capt. J. H. Smith. She passed a large steamer on Saturday supposed to be the Persia.

The news by this arrival is unimportant. The London Post recommends the Hudson Bay Territory as a favorable seat for a convict establishment.

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J. W. OSBORNE.

Three Days Later from Europe.

HALIFAX, Sept. 24.—The steamer Canada arrived here this morning at six o'clock, from Liverpool, with passengers and cargo. The steamer was commanded by Capt. J. H. Smith. She passed a large steamer on Saturday supposed to be the Persia.

The news by this arrival is unimportant. The London Post recommends the Hudson Bay Territory as a favorable seat for a convict establishment.

FRANCE.—Rumors are current of an exchange of colonies being negotiated between France and England. The British Government is said to be in the land of India in exchange for Mauritius. It is also reported that France wishes to purchase from Denmark a strip of Iceland for fishing stations. It is also reported that Algeria demands a large reinforcement of troops. A fleet of gun boats goes to Senegal.

SPAIN.—The country is generally tranquil, but there is some uneasiness at the frontier of O'Donnell's military government. The abilities of Mr. O'Donnell are openly discussed. Mr. Escalante, the minister to Washington has resigned.

ITALY.—The Vienna papers state that the western powers have addressed a second note to Naples in the same spirit, but milder language.

SWITZERLAND.—Prussia is said to have notified her intention to give up her claims in Neuchâtel in exchange for an indemnity, the amount to be fixed by the arbitration tribunal. France reports these views Neuchâtel was quiet.

GERMANY.—Frederick, the Regent of Baden, has assumed sovereignty on his own account, preparatory to his marriage with the Princess of Prussia.—The Neuchâtel affair causes some activity at Berlin.

DENMARK.—Berlin letters say that France adheres to the opinion of England in the question of the southern limit of Schleswig.

SWEDEN.—It was expected that the relations between Russia and Sweden had become more and more unfriendly.

RUSSIA.—The news from this quarter is unimportant, chiefly concerning the coronation ceremonies and the amnesties granted on the occasion.

INDIA.—Graphic advices from Calcutta to the 8th of August have been received. Oude was tranquil. The annual return of Calcutta trade shows an improvement. The sugar crop of Mauritius was unprecedentedly large, amounting to 125,000 tons.

The Hong Kong dates are to the 25th of July. The insurgents captured Tanguang on July 6th, bringing them close to Soochow, the outlet of commerce from Shanghai. An imperial fleet to the number of forty sail was blockaded near Nankin.

What objections there may be to other doctrines avowed in this platform, this resolution enunciates a principle which every Southern man feels to be just and constitutional; and the only one on the